

the Chairman solemnly prayed that God would preserve Senators and Representatives for the difficult duties now devolving upon them, and that the people should be guided to us to respect the law.

SECTION 1. PRESENTED BY MR. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., presented several petitions for the removal of political disabilities.

Several remonstrances were presented against the bill in regard to commutations of the pay of army officers.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Ohio, presented the petition of abolitionists of Ohio praying for the exercise of economy in the administration of the government and a revision of the revenue tariff.

Mr. CATTELL, (rep.) of N. J., presented the petition of the State of New Jersey praying for a change in the warehouse system.

Mr. JOHNSON, (dem.) of Md., presented resolutions of the Legislature of Maryland in regard to the rights of American citizens abroad.

PROTECTION OF THE STATES.

Mr. MILLER, (rep.) of Oregon, introduced a bill to provide in part for the execution of section fourth of article fourth of the constitution. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

WASHINGTON CITY CHAPTER—LIABILITY OF SHIPOWNERS.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., introduced a bill to renew the charter of the City of Washington. Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

A bill concerning the liability of shipowners, maritime insurance, salvage and jurisdiction of admiralty. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REVENUE.

Mr. SUMNER presented a petition of a meeting of citizens of Alabama, held February 14, praying the immediate removal of the tax on the salt of Louisiana. Also inquiring of the Secretary of the Treasury what amount of distilled spirits had been shipped to California from Louisiana during the year 1861, and also amount shipped in Salt Francisco during that year, which was adopted.

THE PRESENTATION OF BILLS TO THE SENATE.

On Monday, January 22, 1862, the Senate took up the bill to regulate the presentation of bills to the President and the return thereon.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., moved within which the President must return a bill with objections to prevent its becoming a law be construed, "the two days previous to the return of the bill to the Senate, for the purpose of presenting a return of him is held to be a final adjournment, and he is directed after the adjournment to return the bill to the Senate with objections."

Mr. DIANE, (rep.) of Mo., stated that the bill was defective in allowing some person outside of Congress, to examine the bill, and to ascertain and declare to whom a bill had become a law.

The question was discussed by Messrs. Edmunds, and Mr. Hale and Mr. Drake.

Mr. EDWARDS, (rep.) of N. Y., suggested that as the bill was defective it should be laid over for further examination.

Mr. EDWARDS assured the Senate that there was no objection to the bill, and that he would not object to it.

Mr. DAVID did not accept the Senator's opinion, as he did not think him just to the best judge of what was the law.

Mr. EDWARDS reminded the Senator that he had been insisting to several of his speeches lately (laughter), that the bill was defective in allowing some person outside of Congress, to examine the bill, and to ascertain and declare to whom a bill had become a law.

At further debate Mr. DOUGLASS, (rep.) of Wis., asked if that the bill be laid aside to take up the pending business.

Mr. SUMNER opposed the suggestion, and hoped a provision should be made to prevent the President from being allowed to allow him to address the Senate.

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